Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 RSC-01 RSR-01 SS-15 FILE-01 SSO-00 CCO-00

ADP-00 EB-11 NSC-10 EA-11 AID-20 OMB-01 EUR-25 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 H-02 TRSE-00 COME-00 /124 W ------ 005931

R 221220 Z APR 73 FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1995 INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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DEPTO 71

E. O. 11652: GDS TAGS: OVIP, XD, NP

SUBJ: DEPUTY SECRETARY CALL ON NEPALESE PRIME MINISTER

- 1. DEPSEC ACCOMPANIED BY SISCO AND SCHNEIDER CALLED ON NEPALESE PRIMEMIN KARKI APRIL 19. DEPSEC STARTED CONVERSATION NOTING THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS IN U. S.- NEPAL RELATONS, ONLY SOLID FRIENDSHIP. EXPRESSED VIEW RELATIONSHIP WILL CONTINUE GOOD IN FUTURE. SAID WE LOOKED ON NEPAL AS TRUE FRIEND AND CONSIDERED OUR RELATIONS WITH NEPAL WERE INDEPENDENT OF THOSE WITH ANY OTHER POWER.
- 2. PRIMIN EXPRESSED GREAT THANKS FOR U. S. BACKING FOR NEPALESE EFFORTS TO STAND UP AT TIMES OF CRISIS. WELCOMED U. S. MOVES TO RELAX INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS. INDICATED NEPAL WOULD WELCOME IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIAN AND U. S. AND INDIA AND CHINA. HOWEVER, ANY SUCH IMPROVEMENT SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT INTEREST OF SMALLER COUNTRIES OF REGION. WHILE INDO- SOVIET TREATY DID NOT COMPROMISE INDIAN INDEPENDENCE IT HAS COMPLICATED SOLUTION OF REGIONAL ISSUES INCLUDING SINO- INDIAN BORDER PROBLEMS. IN ADDITION EVENTS IN SIKKIM HAVE FURTHER AFFECTED SINO- INDIAN CONFIDENTIAL

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RELATIONS.

3. PRIMIN SAID NEPAL WELCOMED U. S. INDEPENDENT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INTEREST IN NEPAL. U. S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION. GON GREATLY APPRECIATES PRESENT TRANSITION FROM RUPEE TO DOLLAR SUPPORT OF US AID PROGRAM WHICH UNDERLINES U. S.

INDEPENDENT INTEREST IN NEPAL.

- 4. PRIMIN REVIEWED CERTAIN ELEMENTS NEPALI DEVELOPMENT PLANS, INCLUDING KARNALI PROJECT, AND HOPED FOR CONTINUED U. S. SUPPORT ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE THERE COULD CONTINUE TO BE GRANT COMPONENT OF U. S. ASSISTANCE PROGRAM THROUGH PL 480 OR OTHER MEANS.
- 5. IN REPLY DEPSEC REVIEWED MAJOR CHANGES IN GLOBAL RELATIONS BROUGHT ABOUT DURING PRESENT U. S. ADMINISTRATION. NOTED U. S. HAD NO SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH USSR OR CHINA WHICH ADVERSELY AFFECTED INTERESTS OF OTHER STATES. INDICATED WE WERE PREPARED FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH INDIA BUT NOT AT EXPENSE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES SUCH AS PALISTAN OR NEPAL. REPEATED THAT WE DID NOT CONSIDER THAT OUR RELATIONS WITH NEPAL WERE DEPENDENT ON THOSE WITH ANY OTHER POWER. IN REGARD ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, DEPSECSAID WE WANTED TO HELP NEPAL. NOTED DIFFICULTIES WITH CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND SAID WE WOULD CONSIDER WITHOUT COMMITMENT ANY SPECIAL REQUEST FROM GON. CONCLUDED THAT WE VERY PLEASED WITH EXCELLENT STATE OF U. S. NEPAL RELATIONS. RUSH

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 22 APR 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TEHRAN02684

Document Number: 1973TEHRAN02684 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: n/a Film Number: n/a From: TEHRAN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730449/aaaaiuvo.tel Line Count: 95

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 17 DEC 2001

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <08-Jan-2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN

Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980128

Subject: DEPUTY SECRETARY CALL ON NEPALESE PRIME MINISTER

TAGS: OVIP, NP, XD

To: NEA

SECSTATE WASHDC INFO DACCA ISLAMABAD

KATHMANDU **NEW DELHI**

Type: TE Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005